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November 5, 2009
Shawn DeFrees

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 101961-5133-US

Client Ref. No.: 7950.204-US

(NEO00262US/371)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Shawn DeFrees

Application No.: 10/549,445

Filed: July 31, 2006

For: Branched Water-Soluble Polymers
and Their Conjugates

Customer No.: 43850

Confirmation Number: 1342

Examiner: LEWIS, Patrick T.

Art Unit: 1623

LETTER TO EXAMINER AND STATEMENT OF
RELATEDNESS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In view of *Dayco Products Inc. v. Total Containment Inc.*, 66 USPQ2d 1801 (Fed. Cir. 2003) and *McKesson Information Solutions Inc. v. Bridge Medical Inc.*, 82 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. 2007) and in satisfaction of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and as required by M.P.E.P. § 2001.06(b), Applicants note that the present application is related to the following patent applications:

08/102,385; 08/215,727; 08/312,387; 08/446,875; 08/447,435; 08/447,783;
08/478,140; 08/683,426; 08/683,458; 08/745,840; 08/878,360; 09/333,412; 09/338,943;
09/855,320; 10/007,267; 10/096,129; 10/109,498; 10/198,806; 10/219,197; 10/287,994;
10/360,770; 10/360,779; 10/391,035; 10/410,897; 10/410,913; 10/410,930; 10/410,945;
10/410,962; 10/410,980; 10/410,997; 10/411,012; 10/411,037; 10/411,043; 10/411,049;
10/485,892; 10/492,261; 10/497,283; 10/549,520; 10/552,896; 10/609,701; 10/654,528;
10/997,405; 11/033,365; 11/102,497; 11/166,028; 11/183,205; 11/183,218; 11/339,752;

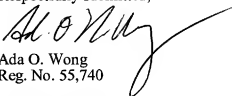
11/404,266; 11/659,153; 11/664,199; 11/845,175; 11/917,772; 12/060,383; 12/066,619; 12/302,167; 12/371,156; and 12/439,221.

Further in view of *Larson Mfg. Co. v. Aluminart Products Ltd.* No. 2008-1096, - 1174 (Fed. Cir. March 18, 2009), courtesy copies of the Office Actions received by applicants and/or their representatives as of the date of submission of this document in the abovementioned copending applications and other related applications are attached unless previously submitted.

However, the Examiner is encouraged to review the art made of record, any Office Action, and any Notice of Allowance in the above-mentioned related application. Applicants assume that due to the ease of review on PAIR by the Examiner, Applicant need not submit copies of the individual Office Actions and/or Notices of Allowance. With respect to any copending applications listed above, Applicants assume that the Examiner is aware that prosecution is ongoing in said cases, and that the Examiner will continue to evaluate these cases as needed.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0310. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Ada O. Wong
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Filed under 37 CFR 1.34

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